

Docket 15868/02

#16
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Thomas P. McBride
Reg. No. 32,706

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In re the Application of: Jeffrey M. Staub

Serial No:	09/688,851	Group Art Unit:	1638
Filed:	October 16, 2000	Examiner:	Georgia L. Helmer
Confirmation No.:	1808		

For: METHODS AND VECTORS FOR SITE-SPECIFIC
RECOMBINATION IN PLANT CELL PLASTIDS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 1.21

This paper is filed in response to the Office communication dated March 8, 2002. It is respectfully requested that the election below be entered with traverse and that the application be examined on the merits.

Remarks

In the action dated March 8, 2002, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 from among the following groups:

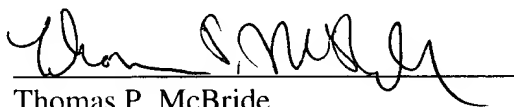
- I. Claims 1-5, drawn to recombinant nucleic acid sequences comprising a plastid construct, classified in class 435, subclasses 85, and Claims 6-7, drawn to plant cells and plants containing DNA of claim 1 or 5, classified in class 435, subclass 419.

- II. Claims 8-11, drawn to recombinant nucleic acids comprising a organelle targeting sequence and a sequence encoding a recombinase, classified in class 435, subclass 85.
- III. Claims 12-20, drawn to methods for the production of a plant having transformed plastids, classified in class 800, subclass 278.
- IV. Claims 21-23, drawn to a nucleic acid construct for the production of a plant having transformed plastids, classified in class 800, subclass 278; plant cells and plants containing DNA of claim 21, classified in class 800, subclass 278.
- V. Claims 24-32, drawn to methods for retransforming a plant cell plastid, classified in class 800, subclass 278,
- VI. Claims 33-35, drawn to a nucleic acid construct for the retransforming a plant cell plastid, classified in class 435, subclass 85; plant cells and plants containing this DNA of claim, classified in class 435, subclass 419.

Applicants elect Group V consisting of Claims 24-32 with traverse and respectfully request that the application be examined on the merits. Applicants believe that it would not create an undue burden on the Examiner to conduct a search encompassing all of the claims. Further, Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications to further prosecute non-elected groups.

Should any questions arise or if Applicants or Applicants' attorney can facilitate the examination of this application, it is respectfully requested that the PTO contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas P. McBride
Monsanto Company
800 North Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63198

Reg. No. 32,706
636-737-7685 phone
636-737-6047 fax
April 3, 2002